

August 2012

IN THIS EDITION



James Gregory brings his humor to GPAC on Aug. 24 as part of It's Showtime! series. See page 3.



Annual Chamber conference scheduled for Aug. 9. See page 4.

AUGUST TOWN HALL CALENDAR

Aug. 6: Town Council meeting (7 p.m.)

Aug. 13: Planning Commission meeting (7 p.m.)

Aug. 21: Town Council meeting (7 p.m.)

Aug. 23: Board of Adjustment meeting (7 p.m.)

Aug. 28: Town Council work session (6 p.m.)

Meetings are in the Council Chambers in Building B at Town Hall.



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GARNER UPDATE

Vol. 44, No. 50

Garner Enjoys Impressive Growth in Population

The Census Bureau's 2011 Population Estimates, released on June 28, showed that Garner had a population growth rate of 3.28 percent between April 2010 and July 1, 2011.

According to the Census Bureau's estimate, Garner's population grew from 25,745 in April 2010 to 26,589 in July 2011. The Town's population increase puts its growth rate slightly ahead of Raleigh's and Cary's, which were two of the country's 10 fastest-growing cities among municipalities with populations of 100,000 or more in 2010.

Garner subdivisions that have seen significant new construction in the past couple of years include The Village at Aversboro and Lynwood Estates.



New residential construction, such as this home pictured here in The Village at Aversboro subdivision, has continued in Garner despite the weak national economy.

Garner's population has grown by 50 percent since 2000 and by 76 percent since 1990.



All Town news releases are posted on garnernc.gov.



Town Honors Miss NC 2012

The Town of Garner hosted a program and reception on July 22 for Garner native Arlie Honeycutt, who was crowned Miss North Carolina 2012 in June. Honeycutt will go on to represent North Carolina in the Miss America pageant in Las Vegas in January.



A Message from the Mayor



Did you know that video recordings of Town Council meetings can be viewed on demand at garnernc.gov?

The dog days of August are upon us, but it's still nice to get outside every now and then — especially in the evenings and especially when you have the opportunity to get together with your friends and neighbors.



With that thought in mind, I want to encourage you to

come out for the next Music off Main concert on the back lawn of Garner Performing Arts Center on Thursday, Aug. 16 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. BrickHouse will perform for free. There will be food and beverages for sale, and artists will be displaying and selling their works.

There are a couple of other big events at GPAC this month. The Towne Players are presenting "The Little Mermaid Jr." Aug. 9-11 at

8 p.m., with a matinee show at 2 p.m. on Aug. 11. Then on Aug. 24, James Gregory brings his down-home humor to GPAC. Visit garnerperformingartscenter.com for ticket information.

There are always great things going on at GPAC.

Ronnie Williams

Ronnie Williams



New Projects Around Town

Here are some new or ongoing commercial construction projects in Garner:

- Subway (1310-120 Fifth Ave.) has obtained a permit to upfit its space.
- Tryon Family Dentistry (1310-110 Fifth Ave.) has an upfit permit to go next door to the Subway.
- Wake Oncology (300 Health Park Drive, Suite 220 – part of Rex Healthcare) has obtained an upfit permit.
- Dr. Eisenburg (family dentistry) has a certificate of occupancy and is open for business at 2600 Timber Drive.

Town Taking Applications for Planning Commission

Applications are now being accepted for a position on the Planning Commission. This commission needs members who reside outside of the Town limits and within Garner's extraterritorial jurisdiction (ETJ).

The Planning Commission is an advisory body to the Town Council and makes recommendations regarding land use, zoning and development. Experience in fields such as architecture, planning,

development, landscaping or other fields related to urban design or appearance are helpful, although not required.

The commission meets the second Monday of each month at 7 p.m. at Town Hall.

For an application, go to garnernc.gov/Forms/Administration/Application_Bd_Comm.pdf, or contact Kimberly Moffett at (919) 773-4456 or kmoffett@garnernc.gov.

Police See Uptick in Larcenies from Unsecured Vehicles

Over the past month, there has been an increase in items stolen from unsecured vehicles in the Town of Garner. In the larceny-from-motor-vehicle reports taken during July, over 60 percent of the victims reported that their vehicles were unsecured at the time the theft occurred.

Items commonly targeted are purses, GPS systems and small elec-

tronics. Vehicles have been targeted while in both residential and commercial areas throughout the town.

Please remember to secure your vehicles at all times. As we enter the back-to-school shopping season, please lock your vehicles, roll up windows and close convertible tops while out shopping. If you must leave items in your vehicle, try to hide them from plain view.



Garner to Participate in National Night Out Aug. 7

The Garner Police Department, in partnership with Target Stores of Garner, will be hosting National Night Out on Tuesday, Aug. 7 from 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the parking lot of Target at White Oak Crossing shopping center, located at 1040 Timber Drive East.

National Night Out is celebrating its 29th annual event, which promotes police-community part-

nerships, safety and neighborhood unity. This nationwide celebration involves over 37 million people in more than 15,000 communities across the United States.

The Garner Police Department, Garner Volunteer Fire-Rescue, Inc., and Wake County EMS will be at Target to provide crime-prevention and injury-prevention tips. There will be inflatable rides and other

activities for kids, all sponsored by Target and other local businesses.

Residents are also encouraged to support National Night Out by turning on their outdoor lights in recognition of this event.

For more information, contact Crime Prevention Officer Josh Stroud at (919) 661-6978 or by e-mail at jstroud@garnernc.gov.

UPCOMING EVENTS



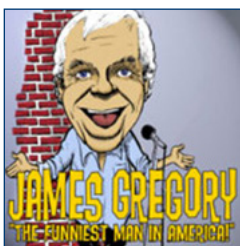
Towne Players' 'Little Mermaid Jr.' Runs Aug. 9-11

The Towne Players present Disney's "The Little Mermaid Jr." Aug. 9-11 at Garner Performing Arts Center (742 W. Garner Road). In a magical kingdom fathoms below, the beautiful young mermaid Ariel longs to leave her ocean home to live in the world above. But first, she'll have to defy her father, King Triton, make a deal with the evil sea witch Ursula and convince Prince Eric that she's the girl with the enchanting voice. Shows are at 8 p.m. all three nights, with a 2 p.m. matinee show Aug. 11. For more information, visit towneplayers.org.



Music off Main Series Continues on Aug. 16

BrickHouse will perform a variety of hits from the '60s, '70s, '80s, '90s and today, combining tight harmonies, a solid rhythm section and blazing instrumentalists to create a powerful, exciting and entertaining ensemble. The show is Thursday, Aug. 16 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. on the back lawn of Garner Performing Arts Center (125 Avery St.). Local artists will also be displaying and selling their work. Blankets and lawn chairs are welcome, but no coolers, please.



James Gregory Comes to GPAC on Aug. 24

Veteran comedian James Gregory, dubbed the "Funniest Man in America," brings his down-home humor to Garner Performing Arts Center (742 W. Garner Road) on Aug. 24 at 7:30 p.m. Gregory's show originally was slated in February as part of GPAC's It's Showtime! series but was rescheduled for Aug. 24 due to a minor medical situation. Elvis tribute artist Eddie Miles closes out the series' inaugural season on Nov. 17. Tickets for the James Gregory show are \$27. Tickets for any of the It's Showtime! performances can be purchased by visiting garnerperformingartscenter.com or by calling (919) 661-4602 during business hours.



Look for
Garner
Performing
Arts Center on
Facebook.



Family Flick/Camping Night Set for Sept. 7

Bring your tents and camping gear and spend the night sleeping under the stars at Lake Benson Park (921 Buffalo Road) after enjoying the Friday Family Flick, "The Lorax," on Sept. 7. Bring your own food and beverages; snacks will be available for purchase during the movie. The movie is free and open to everyone; camping is \$10 per family if residents, \$13 for non-residents. Campers must register in advance at garnernc.gov/Departments/Parks%20and%20Recreation/ProgramDetails.aspx?Event_Number=1915 or by calling (919) 661-6982. No portable grills or pets are allowed at this event. Gates open at 6 p.m.; the movie starts at 8 p.m.



Annual Chamber Conference Slated for Aug. 9

In the past 16 months, Garner has produced an American Idol, a Miss North Carolina, a high school football state champion runner-up, a major road extension that had been sought for years, and several new business announcements and grand openings. Taken together, all of these events point to greater recognition for Garner and to a bright future for the Town.

That future is not guaranteed, however, and it will take continued cooperation among residents, elected officials, town staff and business leaders to continue making Garner "A Great Place to Be."

This year, the Garner Chamber of Commerce's third "Plug in the Future" conference addressing Garner's economic prospects will include presentations on economic forecasts, transportation, infrastructure and education. The half-day conference will be held Thursday, Aug. 9 at the Grand Marquise Ballroom at 225 New Fidelity Court from noon until 5 p.m., with recep-

CONNECT & plug in the future

tion and dinner to follow.

A major topic will be the \$6.5 million intersection at Interstate 40 and U.S. 70, and how it will impact residents and businesses. Why did the Town commit to the project? Who will pay for it? What does a \$6.5 million intersection look like? What business development is already committed because of the Town's action? These and other questions will be answered at the conference.

Ken Atkins, executive director of Wake County Economic Development, will once again serve as moderator. Featured presenters will include N.C. State Professor Mike Walden, Town Council Mem-

ber Buck Kennedy, Sepi Asfenia of Sepi Engineering, Chuck Nuckols of Kimley-Horn, Christine Craig of WakeMed, Rich Barta of Core Properties and Strategic Behavioral Health CEO Jim Shaheen. The featured dinner speaker is Garner Magnet High School Principal Drew Cook, who will discuss the school's recent bronze medal ranking in U.S. News and World Report's list of best high schools. Wake County Public School System Superintendent Tony Tata will present the award to Cook.

In addition to panel discussions and presentations, the conference will include plenty of networking opportunities throughout the day. The cost for attending is only \$59 and includes lunch, dinner and refreshments.

For more information about, or to register for, the "Plug in the Future" conference, contact the Chamber of Commerce at (919) 772-6440, or visit garnerchamber.com.



June Properties of Month Honored

Rick and Gayle Hines of 1402 Claymore Drive (left photo) won the June 2012 Residential Property Yard of the Month award. Rapid Response Family Care, located at 220 U.S. 70 West, won the June 2012 Commercial Property of the Month. Dr. Douglas Keith (right photo) is owner of the business. Pictured with the winners are Neighborhood Improvement Manager Reginald Buie (left) and Mayor Ronnie Williams.

Garner PD Welcomes New Officer to Force

Shaun Christopher Curry was sworn in as Garner's newest police officer on July 12, in a ceremony at town hall. Officer Curry was born on Oct. 23, 1988, in Valdosta, Ga. He moved to North Carolina in 1999 and graduated from West Johnston High School in 2007.



Officer Curry has an associate's degree in liberal arts from Johnston Community College and has completed JCC's basic law enforcement training program.

With the addition of Officer Curry, the Garner Police Department now has 64 sworn officers.

GARNER

To learn more about the Properties of the Month program, e-mail Reginald Buie at rbuie@garnernc.gov.